

NEWS RELEASE



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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NEBRASKA 2004 CORN, SOYBEAN PRODUCTION RECORD HIGH

LINCOLN, Neb., October 12, 2004 -- Based on October 1 conditions, Nebraska's 2004 **corn** production is forecast at a record high 1.33 billion bushels, up 7 percent from last month and 18 percent above 2003, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Acreage to be harvested for grain remained unchanged at 7.9 million acres, up 3 percent from last year. Average yield is forecast at a record high 168 bushels per acre, 11 bushels above last month, 22 bushels above last year, and 21 bushels above the previous high set in 2001. "Exceptional grain weight per ear has pushed the 2004 production well above what producers had expected earlier. This combined with a record high ear count points toward a Nebraska harvest like none other. For soybeans, above average pod counts and bean weight per pod have combined to push yield potential to record levels," said Mark Harris, director, Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service.

Soybean production in Nebraska is forecast at 223 million bushels, 6 percent above last month, 22 percent above last year, and fractionally above the previous high set in 2001. Area for harvest, at 4.75 million acres, is up 50,000 acres from September and the second highest on record. Yield is forecast at 47 bushels per acre, up 2 bushels from last month, up 6.5 bushels from 2003, and ties the record high set in 1994.

Sorghum production in Nebraska is forecast at 34.4 million bushels, down 4 percent from the September forecast but 11 percent above last year. Yield is forecast at 82 bushels per acre, down 3 bushels from the previous month while up 20 bushels from last year. **Sunflower** production of 55.6 million pounds is down 4 percent from last year. **Sugarbeet** production of 952 thousand tons is up 11 percent from 2003. **Dry edible bean** production of 2.07 million cwt. is down 34 percent from last year. **Alfalfa hay** production is forecast at 4.5 million tons, down 14 percent from 2003, and **all other hay** production is down 2 percent from a year earlier.

Access the National publication for this release at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/field/pcp-bb/2004/crop1004.pdf>

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